

Griffith, Undismayed by Fultz's Threat, Plans for Spring Training Trip

MANAGER GRIFFITH CONTINUES PLANS

"If Necessary, I Shall Take But Four Men to Augusta," He Announces.

HIS CONTRACTS ARE OUT

Old Fox Believes Fultz's Organization Will Crack Before Campaign.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

"If necessary, I shall take four players to the training camp, Johnson, Milan, Morgan, and Foster, but I don't expect to have any trouble signing up the other twenty-eight I want to see working out at Augusta."

Thus does Manager Griffith talk of the reported strike on the part of the big league players. Thus does he answer the statement of David L. Fultz, president of the Baseball Players' Fraternity.

"No player can go South unless he is signed. That is the rule in the American League and that is the way I shall act. If my players don't want to sign, let them stay out. But I shall go through with my plans just as if they were all in line."

Whole Move Wrong.

"If the fraternity were honest, I'd be with it, but in all its four years of existence it has never been on the level. That's why I am opposed to it. Following the leader it has now, Dave Fultz, who once played for me in New York, it can do nothing more than collapse."

"The Fraternity claims to be seeking the good of the players. It now wants to force minor leagues to pay transportation of players from their homes to the club camp. There isn't a minor league club in the country that can stand that drain on its financial coffers."

Is Merely a Club.

"The Fraternity is simply a club hanging over the heads of the major leagues, and we know it. If the members of the fraternity—no, I don't mean that, exactly—but if the leaders of the fraternity would be honest and look at things as they are rather than they way they wish them to be, they'd know that they cannot succeed in their present purpose."

"There are several minor league circuits that will have a struggle to start this spring. Indeed, one or two clubs are in a bad way in the National League."

"The fraternity is wrong. For that reason, if for no other, it will fail."

Contracts Are Out.

Manager Griffith has sent out contracts to those of his players who live at a distance, but he expects to confer with Jim Shaw, Eddie Alsmith, and Jack Bentley personally. This trio is wintering in the Capital. "My contracts haven't been out long enough yet for me to determine whether or not the players will sign to me or not," Griffith said today. "I hope that the boys will appreciate good treatment in the past and sign with the Washington club. But if they don't, why, that'll be their business."

"This is Dave Fultz's last gasp. He was ever full of words even in the old days. I predict here and now that the fraternity will not be in existence when April 12 comes around."

Johnson Is Unruffled.

Ban Johnson, boss of the big leagues, is unruffled in the face of Fultz's threats to strike.

"His remarks seem to me to be anarchistic," says Johnson. "However, we are going right ahead with our training camp plans."

John K. Tener, president of the National League, said the players have "no moral or legal right to declare a strike."

Will Welcome Strike.

"My club owners will welcome a strike," says Ed Barrow, president of the International League. "A year's vacation may put some of my clubs on their feet again, for they all lost money last season."

"Our owners have been losing money and holding on, and the players have been getting the money. Our players have been treated royally; in fact, during the last five years they have received too much. A year's strike would straighten out many angles of the minor league situation."

"I cannot help but say, however, that Fultz's action is poorly advised and he has gone a long way to break his organization."

Fultz in Meeting.

Much to his chagrin, Dave Fultz was discovered holding a meeting yesterday of major leaguers living in Philadelphia. Declining to use the word "strike," Fultz admitted that no players would go to the training camps until he gave the word.

"Isn't that the same as striking?" he was asked.

"Well, no," was the reply. "There is a shade of difference. Men who hold jobs and quit do strike, but players who, contrary to the players' last October no longer hold jobs. They can decline to sign a contract and not play, and that wouldn't be striking. But, to all intents and purposes, I suppose it's the same."

OLD PITCHER DIES.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 12.—Jack McFetridge, a veteran baseball pitcher, who played with the Philadelphia National League Club in 1893 and was widely known in semi-professional baseball circles, died suddenly at his home here yesterday.

WILLIAMS AGAINST LAWN TENNIS RULE

National Champion Says Amateur Legislation Will Disrupt Body.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Richard Norris Williams, 24, the national champion, dropped a bomb upon the proposed new amateur rule to govern lawn tennis players yesterday.

The former international player and Harvard captain had as his partner in the action George W. Wightman, who was long active in the affairs of Pacific coast lawn tennis before his becoming a resident of Boston a few years ago. Williams started out in a lengthy document issued to the players of the country with the warning that the passage of the rule as proposed surely means the disruption of the National Association as it now exists. Williams and Wightman offer a compromise. There is no element of subterfuge about the manner in which Williams points out the dire calamity which may be the outcome of the annual meeting of the delegates next month.

Injury To Tennis.

"We may say that if at the meeting in February some such plan as we have suggested is not adopted, and if an actual rupture should take place between those believing one way and those believing the other, a very serious and even fatal injury may be done to the game in this country, nor is the possibility of such a disturbance remote," says Williams.

"On the other hand, if the committee's proposed rule is put to a vote and is not in fact carried—and we wish to state here that we do not think a two-thirds majority in favor of it can be mustered—the result will be no rule whatsoever and the future in no way protected. Wightman and I do not think this is the proper thing. As tennis players we believe it to be our duty to attempt to bring about some constructive legislation which will meet every demand."

Suggests a Remedy.

The remedy which the national champion suggests is the insertion of a single new paragraph in the present rule under the general heading with which the rule begins: "A person shall cease to be an amateur by committing any of the following acts:

"By entering into the business of handling, buying or selling tennis goods after the date of the passage of this rule, due notice having been given."

Williams explains his reason for the stand he has taken as due to the fact that George T. Adee, president of the National Association, had stated that "little harm has resulted up to date from some constructive legislation of the sporting goods business." If that is so, comments the champion, why penalize men who have done no harm?

CUTS TRACK SQUAD

Only Twenty-two Runners Now Out for G. W. Team.

The George Washington University track squad has been cut down to twenty-two owing to the limited memberships given out by the management.

Manager James has been forced to cut the squad, although any G. W. U. student who is also a member of the G. W. U. squad.

Several local boys are out with the G. W. U. squad. Manager James expresses himself as thoroughly pleased with the material at hand and expects to make a showing better than in former years.

The men who will represent G. W. U. in the meet are: For mile run, Kilmarin and Alexander; 880-yard run, Cole, Lenowitz, Ward and Ehrman; 440-yard dash, Harsh, James, Boyd, Erod, Johnson, Scott, Sweet and Thomas; pole vault, Pierce and Pollock; high jump, Morrison and Wingate.

SALLIE EXPELLED

Disbarred by Players' Fraternity for Signing Contract.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Harry F. "Slim" Sallie, the Giants' veteran southpaw pitcher, has been expelled from the Baseball Players' Fraternity, following his signing for the coming year. In announcing this action, President David L. Fultz, of the fraternity, took occasion to explain the stand of his organization.

"As Sallie acted in direct violation of his pledge to the fraternity," said Fultz, "he was expelled. It is reported that Ritter, Sandberg, and Witterstaeter have signed. Witterstaeter is the only one of the trio belonging to the fraternity, and he has not signed."

"We deeply regret the drastic means that have been forced upon us, and the trouble in which they will involve the big league manager. There was an appeal made to the commission, but we would not get the favorable decision, but this has been blocked by the owners."

"We expect some desertions, but that doesn't crumble the fraternity. The real men will stand and see this thing through."

"There is absolutely no moral or legal basis for a strike by our own players," said President John K. Tener, of the National League, when told of Fultz's statement.

"I am not at all sure that retailing means would be employed in case of a players' strike."

DATES ANNOUNCED.

Dates for the girls' basketball team at George Washington, are announced today as follows:

Jan. 20—Holtzman Arms, at home.

Jan. 23—Gallaudet, at home.

Feb. 3—Swarthmore, at Swarthmore.

Feb. 10—Temple University, at Philadelphia.

Feb. 24—Eastern H. S. Alumnae of Baltimore, at home.

Mar. 2—Madison, at home.

Mar. 10—Eastern H. S. Alumnae, at Baltimore.

Mar. 17—Temple University, at home.

Mar. 24—Gallaudet, at home.

WOULD BE SCOUT

Wallace Would Teach Infielders and Search the Bushes.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 12.—Bobby Wallace, the veteran infielder of the old Spiders and later of the Browns, has applied for a berth with Jim Dunn's Indians for 1917. He wants to act as coach of the infielders during the early season and then scout the tall sticks for new players.

President Dunn and Lee Fohl, with Vice President McRoy, are expected to come to a decision in the matter this week.

Wallace applied for the place during the American League meeting in Chicago.

TRAVIS IS BARRED AS PROFESSIONAL

Golf Architects Fall Under Ban of U. S. G. A. Executive Committee.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—On the eve of its annual meeting the U. S. G. A., through its executive committee, declares that golf architects are not only professionals, but that this ruling has been in effect since its adoption at a regular meeting of the committee during the national amateur championship at Merion last September.

By this rule, Walter J. Travis, former national amateur and British amateur champion, in company with A. W. Phillips, of Philadelphia, and lesser known golfers, will be barred from competing in amateur tournaments.

Meets Woodland Attack.

Coming at this precise moment, after having been kept under cover since September, this announcement has a doubly startling effect, for it not only places one of the foremost figures in amateur golf under the ban of professionalism, but it plays havoc with the attack of the Woodland Golf Club in its defense of Outmet, Tewksbury, and Sullivan.

The Woodland officials have based much of their protest on the ground that the rule is a violation of the constitution, and aimed directly at that player, while it let others, presumably Travis and Tillinghast, of equal prominence, escape the same consequences.

The fact of the debarment of the former British and American metropolitan levelers this argument into the dust, and in addition shows that the executive committee is determined to carry the amateur ruling into effect, no matter whom it hits.

A Commanding Figure.

Walter Travis is one of the most commanding figures in the world of golf. He won the national amateur championship three times, and was tied for second place in the national open championship at Garden City in 1902. His greatest feat, however, was his victory in the British amateur championship at Sandwich in 1904, where he defeated the greatest amateur golfers in the world.

He has laid out many of the foremost courses in the country, and is at present engaged in the construction of a new golf course in the metropolitan district. He is also the editor of the American Golfer. Just at present he is at Palm Beach, and will probably remain there for some time.

Prepared To Fight.

None the less the Woodland officials are prepared to fight to the last ditch tonight for the reinstatement of Outmet, Tewksbury, and Sullivan.

This will be the main issue at the meeting, but the conservative forces in the U. S. G. A. have scored a tremendous hit with the opening gun. It is probable that this exhibition of determination on the part of the executive committee will do much to ward off the attack that is expected on the part of the Western clubs.

The Woodland officials and the Western clubs were expected to unite in an attack on the amateur ruling as it was adopted last year, but the publication of the widening of the scope of the rule may upset all calculations.

DARTMOUTH RESIGNS

Leaves N. E. I. A. A. After Twenty-five Years in Body.

HANOVER, N. H., Jan. 12.—As the result of an action taken by the athletic council and ratified today by the student body, Dartmouth has offered its resignation from the New England Intercollegiate Athletic Association, with which it has been associated for the last twenty-five years.

The Green Trackmen have romped away with the title meet all but three or four times, and the feeling has arisen here that it would be for the best interests of the New England colleges if Dartmouth were to withdraw.

SIGNS UP SOUTHPAW

Iowa University's Star Will Get Trial With Indians.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 12.—President Dunn, of the Indians, yesterday announced he had signed for Cleveland Pitcher Deardoff, a big southpaw, who pitched for the University of Iowa the last two seasons.

Deardoff was signed on the recommendation of Manager Dan O'Leary, of Davenport, who developed Alby Gould, of the Indians. Fohl will look Deardoff over at the training camp.

EASON IS THROUGH

Veteran Pitcher Will Not Umpire in Old League Again.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Mal Eason, the tow-headed umpire, will be seen no more arbitrating National League games. He will not be signed for 1917.

In his day Eason was a good pitcher, and was with the Boston and Philadelphia clubs. Retiring from active baseball, Eason broke in as an umpire in the Class A circuits, finally landing with the National League.

CONTINENTALS ARE STILL AT THE TOP

Increase Lead Over Rivals of District Duckpin League With Clean Sweep.

No matter how sensationally the Royal and Grand Central teams roll, they have yet to overtake the Continentals, leading the District League. At the start of the season, when the Continentals assumed the leadership, with their rivals close behind, predictions were made freely that they would give way before long to either the Royals or Grand Centrals.

Increase Their Lead.

They are still in first place, however, and last night, when the Belmonts were encountered, increased their advantage by winning three games. The Continentals are not a flash in the pan, as was thought at first. It now appears that the Royals have a worthy rival for the league title. The Continentals are winning games with as much consistency as the Royals, although the latter are gaining their victories by greater margins.

Last night the Continentals knocked down a total of 1,717 pins, with scores of 573, 577, 567, against 517, 537, and 518 for the Belmonts. Jack Loveless, former Jed bowler, now one of the Continentals' mainstays, was the best individual performer with a set of 279. His games were 137, 130, and 122. Only one score below 100 was registered by the winning team, Chapin getting 97 in his second game. Ball led the Belmonts with a total of 345.

BOB THAYER'S Sporting Gossip

Tonight the golfers will decide whether or not Francis Outmet is a modern Jesse James.

The craze for investigation into the amateur status of this athlete and that is now at its height. When they investigate billiard players, little is left to be said. Platt Adams and Ed Eames, jumpers, have been debarred from amateur competition for "capitalizing their athletic prowess."

Although both men have been engaged in the sporting goods business long before the present rule was adopted. Under such a construction Charlie King, the Washington Spalding's head, cannot compete in amateur golf tournaments here. He sells sporting goods, which is becoming a crime these days. What the amateur folks needs is a little common horse sense.

Why not extend the investigations to the debating teams?

Walter Prichard Eaton, the well-known writer, a member of the Stockbridge Golf Club, comes to time with a good little note to Grantland Rice, the New York sport writer. After failing to find any difference between selling golf clubs and editing golf magazines, laying out bunkers and writing for the papers, Eaton says:

"I cannot see why the present ruling of the U. S. G. A. isn't a typical piece of British snobbery, not to mention matters. It is 'professional' to be in trade and quite all right to capitalize your skill in the artistic fields of 'architecture' (God save the mark) and authorship. Mind you, I'm not saying Travis or others should be ruled out. But it does seem to me—and I'm not alone, either—that it's time the United States Golf Association got a few United States notions into its head, and either ruled for all alike, on a strict impartial basis, or else came back to a mere pragmatic interpretation of professionalism."

Saturday, at Baltimore, Washington fight fans will decide whether Les Darcy looks the part or not.

Whether or not Ray Morgan joins the Brooklyn club, it is interesting to consider just what he would do if allied with a National League club. Morgan is more than a fair ball player, when in condition to do his best. For a small man, he gets a lot of power into his swing. His drives are truly vicious when on the ground and go to the fences when in the air. His best stunt is reaching first base. When going at top speed last season, he led the Griffins for reaching first base, and he wasn't leading with the stick, either. Morgan would have a cinch shining in the National League, which is several degrees slower than the Johnsonian circuit.

Painful memories will be stirred in the hearts of the Dodgers next spring when they play a series with the Red Sox.

Now we are told that New York sportsmen are loudly complaining at the decision in the Herman-Williams bout. But where do the "New York sportsmen" figure in a bout down in New Orleans? Can it be that they bet their wads on the Baltimore battler? Oh, horrid deed! Champions are made every now and then, and usually somebody loses when a favorite, carrying the title, goes down to defeat. But we shall have to have more convincing evidence that Billy Rocap made a mistake than the howlings from "New York sportsmen." We've heard them before now.

SPIT BALL DOOMED

So Says President Tener, Who Calls It "Unsanitary."

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Legislation against the further use of the spit ball in the major leagues is expected to be taken at the coming meeting of the moguls in this city. For one, John Tener, president of the National League, is opposed to it.

The spitball is doomed in major league baseball. President Tener: "That means, of course, that it is also doomed in the minors, for it will avail a pitcher nothing to develop a delivery which cannot be used in the big leagues."

"The spitball is both disgusting and unsanitary. I have long thought that it should be abolished and I expect that it will be this winter."

HATCHETTES ACT AS HOSTS FOR C. U.

Will Entertain Brooklanders at Y. M. C. A. Tomorrow in Basketball.

George Washington and Catholic University will look up tomorrow night at the Y. M. C. A. in what is expected to be one of the best games of the season. Despite the loss of several stars, C. U. is confident of being able to give the Hatchettes a run for the money.

Both teams have played the Navy recently and both took the short end of the score. George Washington will probably have Almon and Giacomo in the forward positions, Ellison in center, and Hillis and Groesbeck in guards.

Plays Same Five.

Catholic University will play the same five which went in against the Navy. Croddy and O'Brien will probably play forward positions, Green, center, and Glascock and Crisby guards.

Both teams have had considerable practice since their last engagements. C. U. will be affected somewhat by the size of the floor, as the Brooklanders are used to cramped quarters.

Gallaudet Is Away.

Gallaudet is at Waynesboro, Va., today, and will play the Fishbourne Military Academy tonight. Tomorrow afternoon the Gallaudet team meets the University of Virginia in the opening college battle in Fayetteville, Ga., against the Blue Devils.

Georgetown was able to swamp the Gallaudet team on Wednesday afternoon, rolling up a 52-10 score. The Gallaudet players were completely outclassed. Interesting figures on the strength of the Virginia and Georgetown teams may be obtained after tomorrow's games.

Will Meet Hopkins.

Tonight the victorious Hilltoppers will engage the Hopkins Independent five at Ryan gym. The Navy team met and defeated the Hopkins players early in the season and Georgetown is expected to run riot again tonight.

While the Hilltoppers have a light team, they are demonstrating about the best basketball of any of the local quints. Coach O'Reilly has an unusually accurate bunch of fast players. Meetings with the Navy and George Washington promise good sport later in the season.

WANT NUMBERS ON

High School Basketball Officials Ask to Have Players Marked.

High School League basketball officials, Beckett and Hughes, ask coaches of the various teams to have their players numbered.

"There are so many infractions of the rules this season," declared Prof. Beckett recently, "that Mr. Hughes and myself have difficulty in picking out the players who are not numbered at present. We ask all coaches to number their players, so that no injustice will be done in unintentionally calling fouls on players."

Business and Central are numbered while Eastern, Tech and Western have failed to number the lads. In a recent game thirty-seven fouls were called, and the officials spent considerable time checking up on those who committed infractions.

Dave Pfeiffer, of the Tech team, has had a deal of hard luck this year. Pfeiffer was out of football on account of an infected foot. In basketball he hurt his jaw in a collision in the games. De la Vergne is another Tech player who has been bungled up recently.

Buck Wise is due to graduate in February, and will not be able to play the season through. Business lost one of its star players in Bill Culligan last winter by the same means.

Tech and Central are meeting for the first time in the history of basketball here today, and the game promises to be a regular Tech-Central meeting.

Next Tuesday Eastern and Western will take the floor at the "Y" in a single game. Eastern practiced yesterday in the Noel House gymnasium.

BUYS SEVEN MEN

Cubs, Pirates, and Phils Sell Players to John Gangel.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 12.—John Gangel, the new manager of the Blues, has completed deals with the Phillies, Pirates and the Cubs for seven players.

This is going a long way toward putting Kansas City on the baseball map. From the Cubs will come George McConnell, George Hertz, pitchers; Eddie Sicking, a third baseman obtained last fall from the Norfolk Virginia League club.

From the Phillies will come Wilbur Good, a slugging outfielder.

From the Pirates the Blues will get Jimmy Viox, third baseman, and Fred Holliday, first baseman.

CENTRAL IS WEAK FOR BATTLE TODAY

Three Players Gone From Line-Up and Shifts Are Necessary.

Central will be somewhat weakened in its effort against Tech in today's doubleheader in the High School Basketball League games, which are to be played at the Y. M. C. A.

According to Coach Metzler, Central has just had one bit of tough luck after another. First, Howard Cissell, captain of the team, and rated as one of the strongest players on the floor this season, was stricken with pneumonia. Yesterday Cissell was operated on at the Georgetown Hospital. He is reported as resting easy today.

Leaves Ross White.

After the game with Eastern on Tuesday, Ross White reported on the sick list, and will be unable to play. Hard luck befell Sam Gottlieb, and he will be unable to make the running at the start today.

Whole Central attack was broken up as a result of the break in the line-up. Central will face Tech's victorious team with Solomon and Dailey in the forward positions, Long in center and Potter and Kaplan in guards.

Tech Looks Better.

Tech will look even better than it did against Western early in the week. De la Vergne's knee has been bothering him of late and Coach Martin will probably start Anderson in forward with Catlin. Tabb will probably play center with Pfeiffer and Schneider in the guards positions.

Eastern will get a chance to show its battle line. The Stenographers were roundly beaten by Friends. Select School the other day and unless they play up to snuff will find the Easterners walking off with the conflict. The Wise boys will play in the forward positions, and will be backed up with Gleason and Towles in guards.

Spring Surprise.

Earnshaw, Thomas, Baldwin, Newman, and Thomas, the lads who recently defeated Central in their first engagement, will lay for Eastern today. Coach McCaffrey arranged a veritable surprise when Central was defeated a week ago.

Business and Tech look like winners in today's games which will start at 2:45 p. m. C. E. Beckett and the Hughes will handle the contests.

TO ROLL MATCH

Keane's Team Meets Crack South-easters Next Tuesday.

Tom Keane's Grand Centrals, of the National Capital League, who took the measure of the Continentals, leaders of the District circuit, in a ten-game duckpin series, will seek another conquest in a picked combination from the Southpast League.

The game will be rolled at the Southeastern alleys Tuesday night and another five at the Grand Central later. The date for the second block will be arranged after the league schedules have been given over in order not to bring about a conflict of dates.

Keane will use his regular line-up against the Southeasters, including Johnny Vaeth, Nick Chaconas, Bill Elliott, the bowler with the extraordinary inshoot; Clarence Ashton and Ernest Miller. These pinpillers have performed in exceptional manner this season.

They probably will meet with stiff competition. The Southeast team will be picked among Andy Goddard, and Burns De Mar, of the Midland Crew; Pat Miller and Rinehard, of Sanitary Grocery; Sims and Kapneck, Cannon Balls, and Scott and Carrigan, of Model Lunch. Scott, captain of Sanitary Grocery, also will be leader of the Southeast team.

Rolling Tuesday night will start at 7:30 and special accommodations will be made for spectators.